

## Kannada / ಕನ್ನಡ Kannada

romanization: UN 1972/77 + KNAB modifications

### I. Independent vowel characters

1	ಅ	a	5	ಉ	u	9	ಎ	e	13	ಔ	au
2	ಆ	ā	6	ಊ	ū	10	ಐ	ai			
3	ಇ	i	7	ಋ	ṛ	11	ಒ	ō			
4	ಈ	ī	8	ಋ	ṛ	12	ಓ	o			

### II. Consonant characters

1	ಕ	ka	10	ಞ	ña	19	ಧ	dha	28	ಲ	la
2	ಖ	kha	11	ಟ	ṭa	20	ನ	na	29	ವ	va
3	ಗ	ga	12	ಠ	ṭha	21	ಪ	pa	30	ಶ	sha
4	ಘ	gha	13	ಡ	ḍa	22	ಫ	pha	31	ಷ	ṣha
5	ಙ	ṅa	14	ಢ	ḍha	23	ಬ	ba	32	ಸ	sa
6	ಚ	cha	15	ಣ	ṇa	24	ಭ	bha	33	ಹ	ha
7	ಛ	chha	16	ತ	ta	25	ಮ	ma	34	ಳ	ḷa
8	ಜ	ja	17	ಥ	tha	26	ಯ	ya			
9	ಝ	jha	18	ದ	da	27	ರ	ra			

### III. Abbreviated vowel characters and other symbols (ಕ stands for any consonant)

1	ಕ	a <sup>A</sup>	4	ಕೀ	ī	7	ಕೃ	ṛ	10	ಕೈ	ai
2	ಕಾ	ā	5	ಕು	u <sup>C</sup>	8	ಕೆ	ē	11	ಕೊ	ō
3	ಕಿ	i <sup>B</sup>	6	ಕೂ	ū <sup>D</sup>	9	ಕೇ	e	12	ಕೋ	o

13 ಕೌ au                      15 ಕಃ ḥ                      16 ೆ (E)  
 14 ಕೌ m, n<sup>F</sup>

<sup>A</sup> While most consonants have a diacritic in the upper right corner of the character (like ಕ), some do not, e.g. ಖ kha, ಜ ja, ನ na, ಬ ba, ಲ la.

<sup>B</sup> Variations, e.g. ಗಿ gi, ದಿ di.

<sup>C</sup> Variations: ಪು pu, ಫು phu, ವು vu.

<sup>D</sup> Variations: ಪೂ pū, ಫೂ phū, ವೂ vū.

<sup>E</sup> Pronunciation without a vowel: ಕ್ k. See also Note 3.

<sup>F</sup> Before ch, d, ḍ, g, j, k, n, ṅ, s, ṣ, t, ṭ and y.

#### IV. Subscript consonant characters (with ಕ vor ಲ /in lines 31 and 33/ as base character)

1 ಕ್ಷ k <sup>A</sup>	10 ಕ್ಷ ñ	19 ಕ್ಷ dh	28 ಕ್ಷ l
2 ಕ್ಷ kh	11 ಕ್ಷ t <sup>B</sup>	20 ಕ್ಷ n	29 ಕ್ಷ v
3 ಕ್ಷ g	12 ಕ್ಷ ṭh	21 ಕ್ಷ p <sup>D</sup>	30 ಕ್ಷ sh
4 ಕ್ಷ gh	13 ಕ್ಷ ḍ	22 ಕ್ಷ ph	31 ಕ್ಷ ṣh
5 ಕ್ಷ ṅ	14 ಕ್ಷ ḍh	23 ಕ್ಷ b	32 ಕ್ಷ s
6 ಕ್ಷ ch	15 ಕ್ಷ ṅ	24 ಕ್ಷ bh	33 ಕ್ಷ h
7 ಕ್ಷ chh	16 ಕ್ಷ t <sup>C</sup>	25 ಕ್ಷ m	34 ಕ್ಷ !
8 ಕ್ಷ j	17 ಕ್ಷ th	26 ಕ್ಷ y	
9 ಕ್ಷ jh	18 ಕ್ಷ d	27 ಕ್ಷ r	

<sup>A</sup> Subscript combinations: ಕ್ಷ kr, ಕ್ಷ kṣh.

<sup>B</sup> Subscript combination: ಕ್ಷ ṭr.

<sup>C</sup> Subscript combinations: ಕ್ಷ tr, ಕ್ಷ ty.

<sup>D</sup> Subscript combination: ಕ್ಷ pr.

## Notes

1. Subscript consonant characters are placed after the main consonant character with the vowel sign, except vowel signs ೆ, ೆ, ೆ, written separately, e.g. ಗ್ರೀನ್‌ಲೆಂಡ್ Grīn·lēṅḍ.
2. Consonant combinations where the 1st component is *r*, are marked with a special symbol like a subscript after the 2nd consonant: ರ್ಗ rga, ದುರ್ಗಾಪುರ Durgāpura. To distinguish combinations where *r* stays as the base character, " is used: ಬೋರ್ರಿಯೊ Bor"niyō (in Unicode the ZWJ code U+200D is inserted after *virāma*).
3. The end-of-syllable mark ೆ ( *virāma* ) is generally not romanized. In order to maintain reversibility middle dot (·) is added:
  - a. if the end-of-syllable mark is immediately followed by an independent vowel character;
  - b. if the end-of-syllable mark is followed by an independent consonant character (not part of a ligature; in Unicode ZWN code U+200C is inserted after *virāma*).
4. In the UN romanization ṁ → m̄, middle dot and " are omitted.

## Pronunciation (as different to Hindi)

b [β]<sup>A</sup>, d [ḍ]<sup>A</sup>, ḍ [ṭ]<sup>A</sup>, g [ɣ]<sup>A</sup>, h [h]~[x], ri [ri, ru, ru], v [w]<sup>B</sup>

<sup>A</sup> – Between vowels.

<sup>B</sup> – Before o, u.